

## Soldiers share Western ideas with Afghans

Story and photo by Sgt. Stephanie Hall  
4<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAMIAN**, Afghanistan – As they approach the small Afghan villa made of mud and straw the U.S. soldiers are greeted by a mass of smiling faces and shouts of “how are you.” A gathering of five Afghan families all greet the soldiers like old friends, and the young children run up to the soldiers to grab their hands and lead them into the villa as they proudly show off their English vocabulary.

A group of five families, who all resided together in their small villa, enjoy it when the soldiers from the PRT visit because “they are good people to teach us,” said 14-year-old Abdulazime Kazime, one recipient of the soldiers’ teachings.

The teachings began before the Bamian Provincial Reconstruction Team site was officially opened, and was already in place when Maj. Tito S. Martinez, who was the executive officer and Bamian PRT engineer, took over. For several months, he took from his personal time to visit the families and continue a tradition started before him “It’s



*Maj. Tito S. Martinez, who was the executive officer and Bamian PRT engineer, uses a butcher board to rehash an English lesson taught to a class of Afghan families.*

very invigorating. It’s good therapy to just leave everything behind for the day, not deal with it, and just play games with children, or teach them,” he said.

The teachings also served as a way to integrate new ideas and “pretty much to (help) build the future” of Afghanistan, said Master Sgt. Mel M. Ramos who also taught

the classes and was the acting sergeant major for the Bamian PRT.

Each encounter flowed smoothly because this particular group didn’t adhere as strictly to traditional rules as some other families do, so the males in the family allow the females

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## Bagram 10 miler just around the corner



Courtesy Photo

*The Bagram 10 Miler will coincide with the Army 10 Miler in Washington.*

Story by *Freedom Watch* Staff

The Bagram 10 Miler run is just around the corner. The event is scheduled for Oct. 5, with a start time of 0130 Z at the “four corners” near the Bagram Air Base gym.

Registration for the event will be conducted Sept. 27-28 at all four dining facilities. The event will be open only to runners. Prospective racers will be able to register in four categories: Men’s Open, Women’s Open, Men’s Masters (40 years and older) and Women’s Masters.

Runners will be able to pick up their run packets that will include their race day number at the Bagram Air Base civic center Oct. 4 from 0400-0800 Z.

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



A detainee is escorted by military guards at the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

## Airman charged with espionage at Guantanamo

WASHINGTON — An Air Force enlisted man who was a translator at the U.S. Navy base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has been charged with espionage and aiding the enemy, Pentagon officials told *CNN* on Tuesday.

Officials said Senior Airman Ahmad al Halabi was arrested July 23 because he allegedly had classified information about suspected al Qaeda detainees and facilities at the Guantanamo Bay base on his laptop computer.

Al Halabi, an American of Syrian descent, allegedly e-mailed information that included details about the base's flight schedule to contacts in Syria, officials said.

He also is believed to have smuggled notes of interviews with detainees and laptop computer files from Camp Delta — the prison camp at the base.

He is being held at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California.

Al Halabi was charged with 11 counts of failing to obey a lawful general order or regulation, three counts of aiding the enemy, four counts of espionage, nine counts of making a false statement and five counts that include violations of the Federal Espionage Act.

He also was charged with a single count of bank fraud.

Al Halabi's home base was Travis Air Force Base in California, but he served nine months at Guantanamo Bay as a translator between the detainees and investigators.

His arrest took place about seven weeks before Army Islamic Chaplain Capt. James

Yee was taken into custody on similar suspicions arising from his duty at Guantanamo Bay.

Officials said that when Al Halabi was questioned he had no reasonable explanation for possessing the classified material.

The investigation now centers on whether there was a connection between the two detained men. Officials said they have no proof of a connection.

Officials also told *CNN* that additional arrests of other members of the U.S. military are possible shortly.



President George W. Bush defends the invasion of Iraq and called for international assistance in the reconstruction of the nation at the United Nations meeting Tuesday.

## World leaders speak out over Iraq

UNITED NATIONS — World leaders have lined up in the United Nations to attack the war in Iraq but seem likely to support U.N. plans to rebuild the shattered country.

Leaders from nations such as France, Indonesia, Brazil and South Africa all condemned the U.S.-led action on the opening day of the U.N. General Assembly's annual ministerial debate.

The speeches followed an address by U.S. President George W. Bush in which he defended the invasion of Iraq and called for international assistance in the reconstruction of the nation.

French President Jacques Chirac sharply criticized the U.S. action and called for the restoration of self-rule in Iraq on a "realistic timetable."

Chirac said the invasion, which was carried out without U.N. support, "shook the multilateral system."

"The United Nations has just been

through one of the most grave crises in its history," he added. While world leaders rallied behind U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan's call to join forces to build a peaceful democracy in Iraq, it is clear sharp differences remain over the timetable for a handover of power and the U.N. role in the nation.

France has been calling for the coalition to hand back sovereignty to the Iraqi people in six to nine months.

The push for a quick handover was supported by Brazil.

President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva said the impasse over reconstruction in Iraq "can only be overcome under the leadership of the United Nations — leadership not only in re-establishing acceptable security conditions, but equally in guiding the political process toward the restoration of Iraqi sovereignty as soon as possible," *The Associated Press* reports.

Bush said the restoration of self-rule there should not be rushed "by the wishes of other parties."

## Calif. recall vote reinstated for Oct. 7

SAN FRANCISCO - With stunning decisiveness, a federal appeals court Tuesday unanimously put California's recall election back on the calendar for Oct. 7, sweeping aside warnings of a Florida-style fiasco two weeks from now.

The American Civil Liberties, which had sought a postponement, said it would not appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court removing the final legal roadblock to the recall and setting up a 14-day sprint among the candidates in the historic election to remove Gov. Gray Davis.

The 11-member panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals swiftly overturned a decision issued last week by three of the most liberal judges on the court.

The three judges had postponed the election until perhaps March to give six counties more time to switch over to electronic voting systems from the error-prone punch-card ballots that caused the recount mess in Florida during the 2000 presidential elections.

# Herd takes command of CJSOTF in ceremony

Story and photo by Spc. Wes Landrum  
Coalition Joint Task Force 180

**BAGRAM**, Afghanistan – A new era was ushered into the Coalition Joint Special Operations Task Force Sunday morning as Col. Walter M. Herd assumed command in a transition of authority ceremony inside the CJSOTF compound.

Herd, who takes over command from Col. Joseph D. Celeski, said he knows of the hard work that has taken place before him.

“I understand that I have been given reign of a well-trained thoroughbred who likes to run,” he said. “We will continue to run and we will continue through the hurdles.”

The incoming commander said he only has two objectives for the CJSOTF – the first is to return home with their heads held high, and the second is to “make sure the enemy did not.

“Those two objectives are of equal importance,” he added. “All else is negotiable.”

Lt. Gen. John R. Vines, Coalition Joint Task Force 180 commander, who spoke at the ceremony, said Sept. 11 wasn’t the first time terrorism had raised its ugly head. He said that Americans could put Sept. 11 on a shelf with other dates in history in which terrorism inflicted damage on the world.

“You can put that date with Sept. 1972 in Munich, 1979 in Tehran,



*Col. Walter M. Herd speaks as he takes command of CJSOTF Sunday at Camp Vance.*

Oct. 1983 in Beirut,” Vines said. “These forces have attacked civilization in an attempt to destroy it completely.”

Celeski said that CJSOTF has given the people of Afghanistan hope and an alternative future that wasn’t offered by the Taliban.

“I am proud and humbled to have served alongside all of you during many accomplishments,” he said. “You have performed all tasks and missions perfectly. You are truly the best of the best.”

The outgoing commander said that although he is leaving, the war on terror is continuing.

“I have full confidence in the new leadership,” he said. “I know I am leaving CJSOTF in good hands.”

## IDEAS, from Page 1

and children to be exposed to western ideas that sometimes contradict their traditional values, said Martinez. “Very seldom will the (males) show up and monitor what we’re doing,” he said. “One of the unique things is their trust in us as males going in to teach the young girls, daughters and wives, so we’ve been lucky that they’ve put that trust in us and it’s worked out so far.”

The actual teachings go far beyond the spoken language and add a new aspect to the confined lives of these families, said Martinez. “It’s teaching our culture, our way of thinking (and) our attitude,” he said. “We show them some of our food; we show them some of our houses, and how we live; we describe and talk about some of our cities; we teach them slang sometimes just to have fun.”

Within the lessons, Martinez planted seeds of ambition and goals into the minds of the traditionally restricted females. “We try to expose the ladies here to what (U.S. women) have accomplished and (become): lawyers, doctors,” said Martinez. “Hopefully some of these ladies, some of the younger ones, will be better exposed and

have different goals and ambitions than their mothers and grandmothers who have been subjugated and subservient for so long.”

Each visit was divided into three parts. The children still too young for structured learning would flock around the soldiers because they knew they were first in line for the soldiers’ attention. With the children, “it’s not really teaching; I just play games with them to help them develop motor skills, thinking skills, or just help them with their emotional growth (and) build their confidence.

After playing with the children, the soldiers would teach an intermediate class where “we give them homework, we review the previous homework, we do grammar, we do conversation, and just different things, not to just improve their speaking abilities, but also their conversation and build up their confidence,” said Martinez.

Lastly, with an advanced class, “we got into some heavy grammar, concepts, writing, and conversations,” said Martinez. “A lot of those lessons are on butcher board, so every once in a while we would go back and rehash it before I introduce a new concept or something more complex.”

Their participation and eagerness to

learn demonstrates “that (the) family is blessed with a lot of talent, and a lot of brain power,” said Martinez. “They realize that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to be associated with so many people from the states with so many different ideas, so they’re just trying to capitalize on that and get their family exposed to it.”

“If you look at their house, it’s basically a fortress,” said Martinez. Their whole lives are “within those walls, and the world is very small for them,” he said. “They don’t have a lot of access to satellite TV, radio, [or] celebrities and political personalities that we are exposed to, so when we go there, and especially when we bring somebody else there, we’re basically expanding their world beyond those walls that they’re use to.”

Tuesday a team of New Zealand Forces officially took over the Bamian PRT, and Ramos said that although he and Martinez will no longer be able to teach the families, he savors the memory of sharing his experiences with these families who did the same. “I enjoyed (learning) about their daily lives, their way of life and some of the customs that we don’t understand, which they’d explain to us,” he said. “We shared that.”

# Alaska Unit ensures equipment ready for OEF deployment

Story by Spc. Sharon McBride  
U.S. Army Alaska PAO

**FORT RICHARDSON**, Alaska — When the 1st Battalion, 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment deploys to Afghanistan this fall, about 600 soldiers will be put to the test.

More than 2,000 pieces of equipment, including vehicles, night vision goggles and radios, will also need to be in tip-top shape in order for 1st Bn., 501st PIR to perform at its best.

Responsible for ensuring that gear is “fit to fight” is the 98th Maintenance Company, which has been working overtime since 1-501 got its deployment message.

“We have been working 10 to 12 hours a day,” said 1st Lt. Steven Huber, 98th Maint. Co. shop officer. “We’ve been repairing, inspecting — doing standard maintenance on all the 501st’s equipment. We are doing whatever it takes to ensure that all their equipment functions properly while they are in Afghanistan.”

Civilians with the Directorate of Logistics have also been working with the 98th Maint. Co.

“That’s the nature of support,” Huber said. “You do what it takes to complete the mission.”

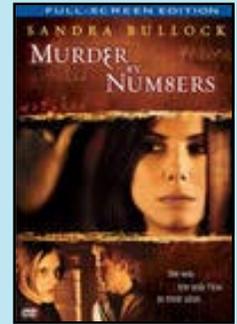
A 17-soldier maintenance team, which will be attached to Company D, 172nd Support Battalion, will also deploy with the Geronimos.

Finding them was no problem.

“We need to be there (Afghanistan) so that the infantry can perform their mission successfully,” said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Darrah, shop foreman with the 98th, who is used to volunteering in times of need. Earlier in his career, Darrah volunteered for a rotation in Bosnia with the 10th Mountain Division.

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: “Murder by the Numbers.” Two gifted high school students execute a series of “perfect” murders then become engaged in an intellectual contest with a seasoned homicide detective.



Tomorrow’s movie will be “Swimfan.”

## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

|                    | Today                     | Thursday                         |
|--------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>Bagram:</b>     | Dusty<br>H: 88F<br>L: 52F | Dusty<br>H: 86F<br>L: 50F        |
| <b>Kandahar:</b>   | Dusty<br>H: 91F<br>L: 63F | Dusty<br>H: 93F<br>L: 59F        |
| <b>Kabul:</b>      | Haze<br>H: 90F<br>L: 50F  | Mostly clear<br>H: 86F<br>L: 46F |
| <b>Uzbekistan:</b> | Clear<br>H: 76F<br>L: 38F | Clear<br>H: 72F<br>L: 40F        |

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)



After being suspended by the NCAA, Maurice Clarett is suing NFL for the chance to take his running game to the pros.

## Clarett files lawsuit against NFL for draft rights Tuesday

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Suspended Ohio State tailback Maurice Clarett sued the NFL on Tuesday, asking a judge to throw out a league rule that prevents him from entering the 2004 draft.

The lawsuit contends the NFL rule prohibiting players from being drafted until they have been out of high school for three years violates antitrust law and harms competition.

Clarett, who rushed for 1,237 yards and led Ohio State to a national championship as a freshman last season, wants U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin to declare him eligible for the 2004 draft — or require the NFL to hold a special supplemental draft sooner.

Under current rules, he is not eligible for the draft until 2005.

“Had Clarett been eligible for the 2003 Draft, it is almost certain he would have been selected in the beginning of the First Round and would have agreed to a contract and signing bonus worth millions of dollars,” according to the lawsuit filed in federal court in New York.

The NFL says it will fight any challenge to the rule it adopted in 1990 because coaches and executives believe younger players aren’t physically ready for the league.

“We do not believe that this lawsuit serves the best interests of Maurice Clarett or college football players generally, but we look forward to explaining to the court both the very sound reasons underlying our eligibility rule and the legal impediments to the claim that was filed,” NFL spokesman Greg Aiello said.

Football is the only sport with a draft that doesn’t allow teams to select players when their high school eligibility is finished.

Clarett was suspended from the team for at least a year after an investigation determined he broke NCAA bylaws concerning benefits for athletes and lied to investigators.

His attorney, Alan Milstein, filed the lawsuit against the NFL a day after he and Clarett’s mother met with league executives in Washington to discuss whether Clarett would be eligible for the April 24 draft.

The lawsuit argues the NFL rule “is a restraint of amateur athletes who were strangers to the collective bargaining process.”

A Duke University legal expert says Clarett has a strong case and the NFL will probably have trouble keeping Clarett out of the draft.

“Any attempt by competitors to restrain competition in the labor market is regarded by the courts with great suspicion,” said Paul Haagen, a Duke law professor. “Unless the restraint falls under a limited number of narrow exceptions, it will be treated as a violation of the antitrust laws.”

When NFL commissioner Paul Tagliabue was asked earlier this month if he thought the league could win such a lawsuit, he replied: “My feeling as commissioner is that we have a very strong case and that we’ll win it.”

## 76ers to give Iverson four-year, \$76 million extension

PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson and the Philadelphia 76ers have agreed on a \$76.7 million, four-year contract extension, a team source said Tuesday.



Allen Iverson

The deal will keep the three-time NBA scoring champion in Philadelphia through the 2008-09 season.

The source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the 76ers will announce the deal at a special event for season ticket-holders Wednesday night at the Wachovia Center. The contract extension was first reported on the *Philadelphia Inquirer’s* Web site.

Iverson has one year plus an option remaining on his current deal, which will pay him more than \$28 million over the next two years. The extension begins in 2005-06.

Iverson averaged 27.6 points last season, helping Philadelphia finish 48-34 and advance to the second round of the playoffs. He was the NBA’s MVP in 2000-01, when he led the 76ers to the Eastern Conference championship for the first time since 1983.

In seven seasons, Iverson is averaging 27.0 points and 5.6 assists. This summer, he helped the U.S. team qualify for the 2004 Summer Olympics.

Iverson had a contentious relationship with former 76ers coach Larry Brown, who left to coach the Detroit Pistons after last season. Iverson gets along well with new coach Randy Ayers, who was Brown’s assistant.

This summer, Iverson was part of the Team USA that won gold in the qualifying tournament for the 2004 Olympics.

# Afghanistan Hot Topics



(Compiled by CJTF-180 Public Affairs)

## U.S. commander lauds Pak's Role

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (*Pak Tribune*) – Commander U.S. and Allied forces in Afghanistan Lt. Gen. John Vines has lauded the role played by Pakistan to combat terrorists.

“The government of Pakistan has been extra ordinary cooperative, and we work closely with their military,” he said in an interview with a US radio channel *NPR*.

Vines said, “in some cases, we ask them to conduct operations to deny sanctuaries and they cooperated in that.”

Replying to a question the U.S. General stated “we do not chase al Qaeda members into Pakistan territory as Pakistan is a sovereign state.”

Operation of U.S. forces is restricted to Afghan territory whereas operations inside Pakistan are conducted by the Pakistan Security Forces, he added.

Pak economy suffered due to anti al Qaeda operations.

Due to anti-al Qaeda operations in the country, the economic reforms introduced by the Pakistan government have faced a serious set back.

This was revealed during a conference organized by International Monetary Fund in Washington the other day. IMF representatives and international experts took part in the conference.

It was told that the economic reforms introduced in Pakistan have been continuing for the past three years but these reforms have suffered seriously due to operations against terrorist groups.

Most of the government machinery's attention has been focused on operation against al Qaeda that has resulted in negative impacts on economic reforms, they said.

## New Zealand troops take over civil-military post in Afghanistan

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (*Kabul Daily*) – New Zealand troops have taken over command of a civil-military team helping to secure and rebuild Afghanistan's Bamiyan valley.

Bamiyan - 130 kilometres west of the capital, Kabul - is the home of ancient Buddha statues that were destroyed by the Taliban regime in 2001.

A U.S. military spokesman says American troops have handed over command there to 100 New Zealand soldiers.

They will bolster a provincial reconstruction team that has been operating in the region for the past seven months, training Afghan soldiers and police and helping with rebuilding.

The *AFP* news agency says provincial reconstruction teams are a US-led civil-military project aimed at assisting reconstruction, boosting security and extending the influence of President Hamid Karzai's government beyond Kabul.

## Warrant Officers and Recruiting Team seeking motivated soldiers...

### Warrant Officers

The United States Army is looking for highly motivated soldiers to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties for qualified soldiers. Soldiers with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.

For more information, contact the Warrant Officer Recruiting Team at [www.usarec.army.mil/warrant](http://www.usarec.army.mil/warrant) or DSN536-0484/0458/0488/0478.

### Recruiters

United States Army Recruiting is seeking highly motivated and dedicated noncommissioned officers to assist in providing strength to America's Army.

Take the challenge and learn how you can become a member of the recruiting team. For more details, visit our Web site: [www.usarec.army.mil/recruiter](http://www.usarec.army.mil/recruiter) or call DSN 536-0271/0215/0465/0210/0457.

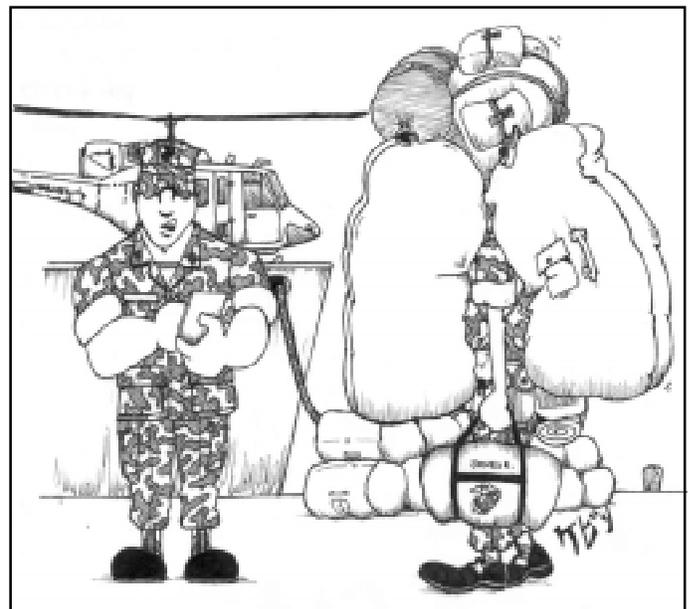
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**“Has anyone seen Pvt. Jones?”**



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By Kevin Kilgore

## Laugh Support